

From: Antone Roundy
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:17am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I feel that the proposed settlement with Microsoft does not go far enough to solve a chronic problem in the software industry--that it is too vague in some areas, and too narrow in others.

Microsoft has shown time and time again that they will exploit any legal loophole, anything they believe they can make appear to be a loophole, or anything that they believe they can claim in court that they thought appeared to be a loophole in order to maintain and expand their monopoly powers. They have also shown that they would like to expand their domination to cover a wider range of products.

While it is, of course, not a crime to expand one's business into new areas nor to be the market leader, I fear that unless the settlement either provides clear, watertight, quick remedies in the event that Microsoft attempts to continue their old ways in both the markets where they currently compete, or in markets new to them; or creates barriers to keep Microsoft from even being able to use illegal means to expand their control; that the time and resources spent on this case thus far will have been largely wasted, and that many more businesses and consumers will be injured by Microsoft's actions in the future.

Perhaps I'm being hypocritical by not being more specific in this letter, but I have seen plenty of comments by other individuals which point out issues that concern me. One in particular that I will mention is Dan Kegel's comments, which may be found at <http://www.kegel.com/remedy/remedy2.html>. I agree with the comments in that document, and have asked to be listed as a co-signer there.

Please take the time to consider the objections that are being raised and to fine tune the settlement to ensure the time and resources already expended in this effort result in the meeting of the goals for which they were undertaken.

Thank you,

Antone Roundy
Manager, Software Engineer, Systems Administrator
Mouken, L.C.
<http://www.mouken.com/>
Spanish Fork, UT